

Mineral Industry Surveys

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ALUMINUM IN MAY 2002

The reported domestic primary aluminum production in May was 227,575 metric tons (t). The average daily production rate was 7,341 t, 2% higher than that of the previous month but 1% lower than the rate for May 2001.

The monthly average U.S. market price of primary aluminum ingot decreased from 66.06 cents per pound in April to 65.45 cents per pound in May, according to Platts Metals Week. The American Metal Market buying price range for aluminum used beverage cans (UBCs) decreased twice during the month of May. On May 2, the price range fell by a penny to 48 to 50 cents per pound, and on May 21, the price range declined by another penny to 47 to 49 cents per pound. The price range remained at this level through the end of the month. According to Resource Recycling's Container Recycling Report, the

average monthly transaction price for aluminum UBCs in May remained relatively stable at 50.5 cents per pound compared with 50.6 cents per pound in April.

Update

The monthly average U.S. market price of primary aluminum ingot increased slightly from 65.45 cents per pound in May to 65.88 cents per pound in June. The American Metal Market buying price range for aluminum UBCs fluctuated during the month of June. On June 4, the price range increased by a penny to 48 to 50 cents per pound; on June 19, the price range fell back to 47 to 49 cents per pound; and on June 28, the price decreased by another penny to 46 to 48 cents per pound, where it remained through the end of the month.

TABLE 1
COMPONENTS OF ALUMINUM SUPPLY 1/

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Primary production	Secondary recovery 2/			Imports for consumption			Total new supply 3/	Total stocks, end of period 4/
		New	Old	Total	Metals and alloys, crude	Plates, sheets, bars, etc.	Total		
2001: p/	2,637	1,880	1,260	3,140	2,560	683	3,240	9,020	1,300
2001:									
May	229	160	104	263	209	58	267	760	1,570
June	215	156	105	261	179	55	235	710	1,470
July	214	152	109	262	201	55	257	733	1,450
August	212	166	110	276	198	57	254	742	1,420
September	206	159	106	265	252	56	308	779	1,390
October	214	172	112	284	220	58	278	777	1,360
November	208	152	106	258	248	57	305	771	1,310
December	205	133	94	227	227	44	271	703	1,300
January-May	1,163	792	516	1,310	1,040	300	1,340	3,810	1,570
2002:									
January	210	147 r/	102	249 r/	272	58	330	789 r/	1,310 r/
February	197	141	93	234 r/	205	52	257	688 r/	1,270
March	220	153 r/	99	252 r/	233	62	285	758	1,330 r/
April	216	148	96 r/	245	221	65	286	747	1,310
May	228	152	98	250	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
January-May	1,071	741	489	1,230	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

p/ Preliminary. r/ Revised. NA Not available.

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits, except "Primary production"; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Metallic recovery from purchased, tolled, or imported scrap, expanded for full coverage of industry.

3/ Primary production, secondary recovery, and imports for consumption.

4/ Includes scrap; data from the Aluminum Association Inc.

TABLE 2
ESTIMATED FULL COVERAGE CONSUMPTION OF AND METALLIC RECOVERY FROM PURCHASED NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP 1/

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Secondary smelters		Integrated aluminum companies		Independent mill fabricators		Foundries		Other consumers		Total	
	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery
2001: p/	2,050	1,530	908	789	777	716	107	96	6	6	3,850	3,140
2001:												
May	177	133	71	61	66	60	9	8	(2/)	(2/)	323	263
June	169	127	72	62	69	63	10	8	1	1	319	261
July	163	121	83	72	68	62	6	5	1	1	319	262
August	172	128	81	71	73	68	10	9	(2/)	(2/)	337	276
September	170	128	78	68	66	61	9	7	1	1	324	265
October	186	139	80	70	69	63	12	11	1	1	348	284
November	171	127	74	64	61	56	10	9	1	1	317	258
December	163	120	62	54	50	46	8	7	(2/)	(2/)	284	227
January-May	855	644	378	328	321	296	42	37	2	2	1,600	1,310
2002:												
January	150	111	80	69	62	57	11	10	1 r/	1 r/	303	249 r/
February	146	108	69	60	61	56	11	10	1 r/	1 r/	287	234 r/
March	152	113	79	69	64	60	11 r/	10 r/	1 r/	1 r/	307 r/	252 r/
April	150 r/	112 r/	71 r/	63 r/	63	58	13 r/	12 r/	1 r/	1 r/	298 r/	245
May	150	112	73	63	68	63	13	12	1	1	305	250
January-May	748	557	372	323	317	294	59	54	3	3	1,500	1,230

p/ Preliminary. r/ Revised.

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Less than 1/2 unit.

TABLE 3
CONSUMPTION OF AND RECOVERY FROM PURCHASED
NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP IN MAY 2002 1/

(Metric tons)

	Consumption		Calculated metallic recovery	
	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage
Secondary smelters	125,000	150,000	93,200	112,000
Integrated aluminum companies	73,200	73,200	63,400	63,400
Independent mill fabricators	56,300	67,500	52,200	62,600
Foundries	10,900	13,100	9,950	11,900
Other consumers	483	580	483	580
Total	266,000	305,000	219,000	250,000

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

TABLE 4
PURCHASED AND TOLL-TREATED ALUMINUM-BASE SCRAP AND SWEATED PIG IN 2002 1/

(Metric tons)

	May			January-May 2/		
	Stocks, opening	Net receipts 3/	Melted or consumed	Stocks, closing	Net receipts 3/	Melted or consumed
New scrap:						
Solids	29,700 r/	76,700	77,500	28,900	383,000	382,000
Can stock clippings	4,320	18,800	20,200	2,900	91,800	91,800
Other clippings	5,680 r/	11,200	11,200	5,680	55,200	56,400
Borings and turnings	4,430 r/	19,500	19,400	4,540	97,100	96,400
Dross and skimmings	2,790 r/	33,900	34,000	2,710	170,000	170,000
Total new scrap	46,900 r/	160,000	162,000	44,700	797,000	796,000
Old scrap:						
Used casting, sheet, clippings	10,600 r/	32,800	32,700	10,600	163,000	162,000
Aluminum-copper radiators	1,550	2,380	2,410	1,530	12,000	12,400
Used cans (shredded, loose, baled)	32,900 r/	61,800	58,400	36,400	294,000	290,000
Fragmentized shredder (auto shredder)	3,440	9,190	9,190	3,440	43,800	46,000
Total old scrap	48,500 r/	106,000	103,000	51,900	513,000	511,000
Sweated pig	140 r/	1,030	1,010	165	5,000	5,000
Total all classes	95,500 r/	267,000	266,000	96,800	1,310,000	1,310,000

r/ Revised.

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Includes revised data from previous month(s).

3/ Includes data on imported aluminum-base scrap.

TABLE 5
ALUMINUM ALLOYS PRODUCED AT SECONDARY SMELTERS IN THE UNITED STATES FOR 2002 1/ 2/

(Metric tons)

	May				January-May 3/	
	Stocks, opening	Production	Net shipments	Stocks, closing	Production	Net shipments
Die-cast alloys:						
13% Si, 360, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	4,500	1,530	1,480	4,550	8,560	8,570
380 and variations	5,380	33,200	33,200	5,460	165,000	164,000
Sand and permanent mold:						
95/5 Al-Si, 356, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	3,170	4,120	4,090	3,200	20,500	20,500
No. 319 and variations	9,930	11,100	11,100	9,920	55,700	56,700
F-132 alloy and variations	1,950 r/	2,030	2,050	1,930	10,500	10,400
Al-Zn alloys	630	59	59	630	293	380
Al-Si alloys (0.6% to 2.0% Cu)	91	168	168	91	841	841
Al-Cu alloys (1.5% Si, max.)	--	191	191	--	955	955
Other 4/	4,310 r/	10,100	10,000	4,340	47,400	48,400
Wrought alloys:						
Extrusion billets	10,200	17,500	17,600	10,100	86,800	87,000
Total all alloys	40,100 r/	80,000	79,900	40,200	397,000	398,000
Less:						
Primary aluminum consumed	XX	6,680	XX	XX	30,900	XX
Primary silicon consumed	XX	3,430	XX	XX	17,400	XX
Other alloying ingredients consumed	XX	509	XX	XX	2,810	XX
Net metallic recovery from aluminum scrap and sweated pig consumed in production of secondary aluminum ingot 5/	XX	69,300	XX	XX	346,000	XX

r/ Revised. XX Not applicable. -- Zero.

1/ Excludes integrated aluminum companies.

2/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

3/ Includes revised data from previous month(s).

4/ Includes alloys No. 12, Al-Mg, Al-Si-Cu-Ni, aluminum-base hardeners, variations of these alloys, plus other aluminum alloys.

5/ No allowance made for melt-loss of primary aluminum and alloying ingredients.

TABLE 6
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF ALUMINUM IN APRIL 2002 1/

(Metric tons)

Country	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	April	January- April	April	January- April	April	January- April	April	January- April
Argentina	6,170	30,000	56	56	--	200	6,230	30,300
Australia	6,750	41,100	10	16	--	--	6,760	41,100
Bahrain	297	6,050	1,230	3,750	--	--	1,530	9,800
Belgium	--	--	202	1,460	450	450	652	1,910
Brazil	3,060	7,690	19	353	--	1,300	3,080	9,350
Canada	127,000	538,000	38,800	143,000	24,600	93,600	190,000	775,000
France	29	239	719	1,760	366	2,040	1,110	4,040
Germany	60	813	5,540	18,300	911	2,740	6,510	21,900
Ghana	--	--	--	--	--	2,240	--	2,240
Hungary	--	--	718	2,240	--	--	718	2,240
Italy	--	--	241	797	--	--	241	797
Japan	36	124	1,140	3,380	15	71	1,190	3,570
Korea, Republic of	2	5	519	1,670	--	--	521	1,670
Mexico	411	1,700	1,550	5,680	4,760	19,600	6,710	27,000
Netherlands	39	147	276	1,080	118	1,040	434	2,260
Norway	1,700	1,770	10	27	--	--	1,710	1,790
Russia	44,900	194,000	3,220	12,500	4,780	8,820	52,800	216,000
South Africa	--	5,480	2,300	9,920	--	8	2,300	15,400
Spain	16	463	13	52	--	--	29	514
Sweden	--	--	274	1,110	--	44	274	1,150
Switzerland	158	158	301	626	39	39	498	824
Ukraine	--	--	--	20	--	--	--	20
United Arab Emirates	7,350	24,200	--	--	--	118	7,350	24,300
United Kingdom	(2/)	162	718	3,240	478	1,680	1,200	5,080
Venezuela	23,000	61,400	1,660	5,840	818	2,360	25,500	69,600
Other	457	6,530	5,860	20,700	2,900	12,700	9,220	39,900
Total	221,000	921,000	65,300	237,000	40,200	149,000	326,000	1,310,000

-- Zero.

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Less than 1/2 unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 7
U.S. EXPORTS OF ALUMINUM IN APRIL 2002 1/

(Metric tons)

Country or territory	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	April	January- April	April	January- April	April	January- April	April	January- April
Australia	19	20	73	440	--	175	91	635
Belgium	18	55	236	1,740	--	59	254	1,850
Brazil	1	72	1,910	14,000	--	--	1,910	14,100
Canada	8,840	29,000	35,800	147,000	19,300	76,200	64,000	252,000
China	8	22	3,210	12,200	16,700	56,500	19,900	68,800
Czech Republic	--	--	--	4	--	--	--	4
Dominican Republic	--	3	29	232	--	--	29	235
France	16	61	332	1,520	2	6	350	1,580
Germany	95	799	239	957	18	125	352	1,880
Hong Kong	10	77	235	1,600	814	2,890	1,060	4,570
India	1	44	21	68	496	1,340	517	1,460
Israel	(2/)	35	70	456	--	--	70	491
Italy	1	4	279	826	--	3	279	833
Japan	275	1,290	1,150	3,270	2,600	10,400	4,030	14,900
Korea, Republic of	7	226	521	3,490	3,880	19,400	4,410	23,100
Malaysia	--	(2/)	26	156	229	374	255	531
Mexico	7,010	32,200	9,300	35,200	5,080	16,100	21,400	83,600
Netherlands	4	18	106	319	--	50	111	387
Russia	--	19	--	14	--	9	--	42
Saudi Arabia	--	(2/)	1,160	5,300	--	--	1,160	5,300
Singapore	4	15	94	1,440	--	92	98	1,540
Spain	--	14	64	305	262	482	326	801
Sweden	--	--	31	204	5	5	36	209
Taiwan	1	4	742	2,180	2,360	7,050	3,100	9,230
Thailand	--	--	1,160	3,990	176	456	1,330	4,450
United Kingdom	66	180	600	2,800	19	392	686	3,370
Venezuela	--	3	1,120	3,480	--	--	1,120	3,480
Other	41	134	1,630	9,530	301	1,550	1,970	11,200
Total	16,400	64,300	60,100	252,000	52,200	194,000	129,000	510,000

-- Zero.

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Less than 1/2 unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.